ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ

ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾದುದು

ಸಂಪುಟ –೧೬೧	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಗುರುವಾರ, ೨೦, ಆಗಸ್ಟ್, ೨೦೨೬ (ಶ್ರಾವಣ, ೨೯, ಶಕವರ್ಷ, ೧೯೪೮)	ಸಂಚಿಕೆ ೧೬೨
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ಭಾಗ ೪ಎ

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿಧೇಯಕಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಅವುಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ವರದಿಗಳು, ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಆಧ್ಯಾದೇಶಗಳು, ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಶಾಸನಗಳ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಶಾಸನಬದ್ಧ ನಿಯಮಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯಾಂಗದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು ಮಾಡಿದ ನಿಯಮಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಉಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯವು ಮಾಡಿದ ನಿಯಮಗಳು

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
FOOD SAFETY AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION
Palace Road, Bengaluru – 01
E-mail: cfskarnataka@gmail.com

No.: HFW/ FDA/ ENF/ /2026 Date: 17.08.2026

ORDER

Subject: Prohibition of the manufacture, storage, distribution (including transportation) and sale of analogue paneer being sold under the name "Paneer" throughout the State of Karnataka for a period of one year.

The primary objectives of the **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006** are to establish the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science-based standards for articles of food, to ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption, and to regulate the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import of food so as to ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

Under **Section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**, where the State Food Safety Commissioner, in the interest of public health and for reasons to be recorded in writing, is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for believing that any article of food is likely to be unsafe or injurious to human health, the Commissioner may, by notification published in the Official Gazette, prohibit the manufacture, storage, distribution or sale of such article of food throughout the State or any part thereof for a period not exceeding one year.

In **Swami Achyutanand Tirth & Others v. Union of India & Others, Writ Petition (Civil) No. 159/2012, judgment dated 5 August 2016 [(2016) 9 SCC 699]**, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India took serious note of the widespread adulteration of milk and milk products, including the use of processed/vegetable oils in place of milk fat, and issued necessary directions to the Central Government and State Governments regarding effective implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.These directions place a continuing responsibility on the concerned authorities to take effective preventive measures to curb adulteration of milk and milk products.

The **Central Advisory Committee constituted under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**, in its **48th meeting held on 14.10.2025**, discussed the regulatory framework relating to **"Analogue in Dairy Context"** and recorded that specific quality standards had not been prescribed for products falling under this category.

The absence of such standards makes effective enforcement action at the field level in respect of analogue paneer difficult. Further, there is a possibility that such products may be sold or used as genuine paneer, thereby misleading consumers. This may adversely affect the interests of consumers, particularly those who rely on paneer as a source of protein. Considering the existing level of public awareness, it would not be appropriate to place the entire responsibility of distinguishing between analogue paneer and genuine paneer upon consumers.

The manufacture and sale of analogue/non-dairy paneer, and representing or selling such products as genuine paneer or as paneer, may create a false impression among consumers regarding the nature of the food and its actual ingredients. This may also result in violation of the labelling requirements applicable to dairy analogue products. In particular, failure to make the mandatory declarations regarding the use of non-dairy ingredients and substituted milk components, as required under **Regulation 2.1.1(5)(b)**, would constitute a violation of the applicable regulations.

Under **Regulation 2.1.16 of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011**, paneer is a **standardized food product**.

As per the said regulation, paneer means the product obtained from milk of any type, with or without the addition of permitted milk solids, by precipitation with permitted acidulants such as **lactic acid, citric acid, malic acid, vinegar, glucono-delta-lactone or sour whey**, followed by heating.

Milk fat is an essential constituent of paneer. The use of vegetable oil, vegetable fat or any other non-dairy fat in place of, or in addition to, milk fat is not permitted. Therefore, a paneer-like product manufactured by wholly or partially replacing milk fat or milk solids with non-dairy ingredients falls within the scope of **"Analogue in Dairy Context."**

Such a product does not constitute paneer as defined under Regulation 2.1.16. Therefore, it is not permissible to name, sell, supply or represent such a product as **"Paneer."** It is mandatory to

clearly declare, in accordance with the applicable regulations and in close proximity to the name of the product, that non-dairy ingredients have been used in place of The above declarations shall be made in the manner prescribed under **Regulation 2.1.1(5)(b)**.

If any analogue/non-dairy product is named, sold, supplied or represented as paneer, it may be treated as **misbranded food** under the applicable laws and regulations. If such product fails to comply with the safety or quality requirements prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the rules and regulations made thereunder, appropriate action shall be taken in accordance with the relevant legal provisions.

No product that does not conform to the prescribed standards, particularly any analogue/non-dairy paneer, shall be permitted to be manufactured, sold, supplied or represented under the name **"Paneer."**

In view of the above circumstances, and considering public health and consumer interests, it is considered necessary to take appropriate regulatory measures in this matter, as the manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of analogue/non-dairy paneer may adversely affect human health and consumer interests.

This Order shall apply only to **dairy analogue products for which specific quality standards have not been prescribed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India and which are not standardized food products**. This Order shall **not apply to separately standardized food products such as Frozen Dessert, Processed Cheese and Mixed Fat Spread**, as separate standards have been prescribed for such products under the applicable regulations.

Therefore, having regard to the facts stated above, the information available and the interest of public health, and in exercise of the powers conferred under **Section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**, I am of the considered opinion that it is necessary, reasonable and appropriate in the interest of public health to prohibit the manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of analogue/non-dairy paneer throughout the State of Karnataka for a period not exceeding one year.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS ON THE 17TH Day of August 2026:

In exercise of the powers vested in me under **Sections 30(2)(a), 18 and 29 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**, and all other powers available to me in this regard, I, **Shri Srinivasa K. IAS, Commissioner of Food Safety, Food Safety and Drugs Administration, Karnataka State**, hereby issue the following Order:

"Analogue/Non-Dairy Paneer" means any product that resembles paneer or is used as a substitute for paneer and in which milk fat or milk solids have been wholly or partially replaced / substituted by vegetable oil, vegetable fat or any other non-dairy ingredients, the **manufacture, processing and preparation, packing, storage, distribution and transportation, wholesale and retail sale, display for sale, supply, and any other form of sale of analogue/non-dairy paneer** are

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hereby prohibited throughout the State of Karnataka for a period of **one year from the date of publication of this Order in the Official Gazette**.

No food business shall **use, store, stock, supply, sell or otherwise utilise analogue/non-dairy paneer** in the preparation of any food product or dish.

This Order is issued with the objective of **protecting public health and safeguarding the interests of consumers throughout the State of Karnataka**.

Srinivasa K, IAS
Commissioner
Food Safety and Drug Administration

PR-581

ಮುದ್ರಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಕಾಶಕರು:– ಸಂಕಲನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ, ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮುದ್ರಣಾಲಯ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

P S BASAVARAJU